

Message Text

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ACTION STR-06

INFO OCT-01 STRE-00 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
NEA-10 IO-14 OIC-02 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 /172 W
-----034760 262016Z /40

P 261938Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5193
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 01218

USMTN, USEEC
ACTION STR ELECTRONICALLY
STR PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD
SUBJECT: JAPANESE STATEMENT AT MTN INFORMAL SESSION
(JANUARY 23) OPENING FINAL MTN BARGAINING PHASE

JAPANESE SPOKESMAN (MINISTER OF EXTERNAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
USHIBA) MADE KEYNOTE STATEMENT AT INFORMAL SESSION MARKING
OPENING OF FINAL BARGAINING PHASE OF THE MTN. FULL TEXT
OF STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

1. BEGIN TEXT: MR. DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND MY DISTINGUISHED
COLLEAGUES: TODAY, WE GATHER HERE TO COMMEMORATE THE
BEGINNING OF THE FINAL PHASE OF THE TOKYO ROUND OF MULTI-
LATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. LAST WEEK, SEVERAL PARTICI-
PANTS INCLUDING MY OWN SUBMITTED OFFERS ON TARIFFS,
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AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, AND NONTARIFF MEASURES. THE TABLING
OF SPECIFIC OFFERS IS A MAJOR STEP FORWARD TOWARD THE
SUCCESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. THIS DEMONSTRATES, IN OUR
VIEW, THE POLITICAL WILL SHARED AMONG PARTICIPANTS TO
FURTHER EXPAND WORLD TRADE AND TO PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN
THE OPEN TRADING SYSTEM UNDER THE GATT AS WELL AS TO
CONTAIN PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES ARISING OUT OF THE

PRESENT ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES.

2. EARLY AND SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE TOKYO ROUND AND PROMPT IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS RESULTS ARE OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE UNDER THE PRESENT ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES. THE STABILITY IN INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SITUATIONS IS ANOTHER PRE-REQUISITE FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY THROUGH TRADE EXPANSION. THE WORLD ECONOMIC COMMUNITY TODAY NEEDS A POSITIVE AND CONCRETE DEMONSTRATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. THIS SHALL SERVE TO REAFFIRM A RIGHT SENSE OF DIRECTION AND TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN THE OPEN TRADING SYSTEM. FOR THIS REASON, THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN IS DETERMINED TO MAKE UTMOST CONTRIBUTIONS TO SECURE THE SUCCESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. THIS DETERMINATION IS CLEARLY REFLECTED IN THE CABINET DECISION OF LAST WEEK ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF OFFERS. THIS DECISION STATES, INTER ALIA, THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN "WILL, IN FULL COOPERATION WITH OTHER PARTICIPANTS, ASSUME A LEADING ROLE WITH ITS MAXIMUM EFFORTS TO BRING THE NEGOTIATIONS TO EARLY CONCLUSION WITH MEANINGFUL RESULTS." LAST SATURDAY PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA STATED AT THE 84TH SESSION OF THE DIET THAT "THE GOVERNMENT WILL STRIVE FOR THE OPENING OF OUR MARKET THROUGH VIGOROUSLY INSTITUTING A SERIES OF MEASURES INCLUDING THE POSITIVE COOPERATION IN THE TOKYO ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS."

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3. SUCH POLICY INTENTION HAS BEEN UNDERLINED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS OF PRONUNCIATION OF JAPAN'S ECONOMIC POLICY SUCH AS THE ADVANCE REDUCTION OF TARIFFS DECIDED UPON LAST DECEMBER, THE SUBMISSION OF OFFER LISTS LAST WEEK, TO CITE ONLY A FEW.

4. NOW, I SHOULD LIKE TO TOUCH UPON THE OFFERS SUBMITTED BY JAPAN. JAPAN'S INDUSTRIAL TARIFF OFFERS ARE BASED ON A HARMONIZATION FORMULA. THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE REDUCTION ON MINERAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS EXCEEDS 40 PERCENT. EXCEPTIONS HAVE BEEN KEPT TO THE MINIMUM, AND DEEPER-THAN-FORMULA CUTS ARE APPLIED TO A LARGE NUMBER OF PRODUCTS. JAPAN'S CONCESSIONS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND NON-TARIFF MEASURES ARE THE REFLECTION OF ITS SINCERE EFFORTS TO MEET, AS EXTENSIVELY AS POSSIBLE, THE REQUESTS SUBMITTED LAST NOVEMBER. ON THE BASIS OF THESE OFFERS, THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN IS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH ITS NEGOTIATING PARTNERS, DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED ALIKE. IT IS JAPAN'S INTENTION TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TO MAXIMIZING EACH OTHER'S OFFERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS SO THAT WE CAN ATTAIN SUBSTANTIAL

RESULTS THAT ARE MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE. ALSO, THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN INTENDS TO COOPERATIVE POSITIVELY IN THE FIELDS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WHERE MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS SUCH AS IN THE FORM OF CODES ARE BEING NEGOTIATED.

5. WITH RESPECT TO OUR DEVELOPING PARTNERS, I REAFFIRM ONCE AGAIN THAT JAPAN DOES NOT SEEK STRICT RECIPROCITY BUT EXPECTS CONTRIBUTIONS CONSISTENT WITH THEIR DEVELOPMENT, FINANCIAL AND TRADE NEEDS. I ALSO REAFFIRM THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN IS GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLE CONTAINED IN THE TOKYO DECLARATION AND, IN PARTICULAR, THAT "THE NEGOTIATIONS SHALL AIM TO SECURE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES."

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6. MR. CHAIRMAN, MY GOVERNMENT DOES NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE COMPLEXITY NOR AGONIZING TECHNICAL DETAILS THAT MUST BE OVERCOME FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

7. MY GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, WOULD WISH TO SEEK AS RAPID A PROGRESS AS POSSIBLE AND TO MAXIMIZE THE RESULTS OF

THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TO WINDING UP THE TOKYO
ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS BY MID-JULY OF THIS YEAR.

8. LET ME CONCLUDE MY REMARKS BY REAFFIRMING THE TOTAL
PLEDGE OF MY GOVERNMENT TO EARLY AND SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION
OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND PROMPT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
RESULTS, WHICH ALL OF US HAVE JOINTLY CARRIED FORWARD
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THIS FAR FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.
THANK YOU. END TEXT MCDONALD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, POLICIES, SPEECHES, TARIFFS, NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA01218
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780039-0549
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA USMTN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780121/aaaaaqzo.tel
Line Count: 185
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 084609e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION STR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3711675
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE STATEMENT AT MTN INFORMAL SESSION (JANUARY 23) OPENING FINAL MTN BARGAINING PHASE JAPANESE SPOKESMAN (MINISTER OF EXTERNAL ECONOMIC
TAGS: ETRD, JA, MTN
To: STATE USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/084609e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014